THE VICAR'S LETTER

My dear Friends,

First the very wet weather and then the cold seems to have played havoc with some of our congregations. I hope Bere Regis people are not developing into fine weather Christians!

However, Lent is upon us at the end of this month. A Season of the year which the Church, in her wisdom, has set aside as a time especially geared for the deepening of the Spiritual life. We print a preliminary list of the Lenten Services but I hope that the Lenten Season may be used in general as a time of new beginnings in both Church attendance and Christian life.

This year I have arranged with the Clergy of the Deanery that we shall all exchange pulpits on Sunday evenings during Lent. Each of us will, in the six weeks, visit every parish in the Deanery and so you will have the opportunity of hearing every parson in the Deanery of Bere Regis. I do trust you will support the visiting preachers both by coming to hear them and also by your prayers. You will find a full list of when they are coming in the Lenten arrangements.

Later on I shall be writing about the Confirmation which will take place in May - but it is not too soon for our young people, and adults too if they have not been confirmed, to start thinking about this tremendously important event. Also later on in the year I am hoping that the parish will have a visit for a day from the Bishop of the Diocese, and we must make arrangements for him to meet as many people as possible.

This should prove a very exciting event and I know you will look forward to it.

Your sincere friend and Vicar,

Paul Tranter.

SANCTUARY FLOWER GUILD

Feb. 6th. Mrs. Terry
13th. Miss Llewellyn
20th. Miss McFall
27th. 1st Sunday in Lent.

Mrs. Harding
Mrs. Applin
Mrs. Higgins
SIDESMEN'S ROTA FOR FEBRUARY

Feb. 6th. 11.00 Lt. C Mauder & Mr. K. Woolfries
6.00 Messrs. P. Wyatt & L. Bartlett

13th. 11.00 Mr. I. Mullins & Col. A Barrie
6.00 Messrs. D. Poore & J. House

20th. 11.00 Messrs. W. F. Lys & R. Smith
6.00 Messrs. M. Barnes & F. Marsh

27th. 11.00 Mr. A Harding & Lt. C. Mauder
6.00 Messrs. R. Barnes & L. Bartlett

VILLAGE CALENDAR

Feb. 2nd. Purification of the B. V. M., 9.30 am Holy Communion
8th Bere Regis Floral Group Bulb and Spring Show Drax Hall 2.30 pm
23rd. Ash Wednesday. See Lenten Arrangements.
24th. Th. St. Matthias. 9.30 Holy Communion

Mar. 9th. Wed. 8.00 pm Sidesmen's Meeting
22nd. Tu. M.U. Deanery Festival.

May 12th. Th. 7.00 pm Confirmation Bere Regis.

June 4th. Saturday St. Nicholas Garden Party
11th. Saturday Congregational Fete at The Cedars.
25th. Saturday Bere Regis Garden Party

July 9th. 10th. 11th. Floral Festival in Bere Regis Church


EASTER LILIES FOR REMEMBRANCE

Will those of you who would like to give a Lily at Easter in
memory of some departed relative or friend, please fill in the list
which you will find on the table at the back of the Church.

We require the name of the donor, the full names of the person
in whose memory it is to be given, and the number of lilies you wish
to give.

It will be a great help if we can have your requirements as soon
as possible so that we can have some idea of the number to order.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR LENT AND EASTER

ASH WEDNESDAY February 23rd.
9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
7.00 p.m. Evensong

On Thursdays during Lent there will be a course of Addresses on
'The Religion that Jesus hated'
3.00 p.m. Thursday March 3rd.
'Keeping to the Letter of the Law'
3.00 p.m. Thursday March 10th.
'Thinking more of Words than Deeds'
3.00 p.m. Thursday March 17th.
'Listening without obeying'
3.00 p.m. Thursday March 24th.
'Watching for the faults of others'
3.00 p.m. Thursday March 31st.
'Shirking what is Hard'

Mothering Sunday March 20th. 2.30 p.m. Mothering Sunday Service

SPECIAL PREACHERS ON SUNDAY EVENINGS DURING LENT:

LENT I. February 27th.
6.00 p.m. Rev. J. L. Baillie
Vicar of Milborne St. Andrew

LENT II. March 6th.
6.00 p.m. Rev. C. H. Hampton
Rector of Piddlehinton

LENT III. March 13th.
6.00 p.m. Rev. H. A. Johnson
Vicar of Affpuzzle

LENT IV. March 20th.
6.00 p.m. Rev. J. E. B. Cattell
Vicar of Piddlestronthide

LENT VI. April 3rd.

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Monday April 4th. 7.00 p.m. Compline
Tuesday April 5th. 7.00 p.m. Compline
Wednesday April 6th. 7.00 p.m. Compline
Maundy Thursday 7.00 p.m. Holy Communion
Bere Regis Mothers’ Union

The monthly meeting will be held at 7.30 p.m. in the W.I. Hut on Thursday February 10th. Mrs. Honeybun who was to have been our Speaker is unfortunately unable to come owing to illness in her family. I am now in the process of trying to find a substitute. The name of the Speaker will therefore be announced later. P.J.T.

Bere Regis Women’s Institute

As we are making a great effort to clear the debt on the W.I. Hut we plan to have a special Garden Party on July 16th 1966 - when Mr. and Mrs. Griffin have kindly offered us the use of their garden at The Cedars. We ask all members of the W.I. to keep this date free and to give their support. Any friends who care to come will be very welcome. Further details will be announced later.

R.L.M.

Bere Regis Floral Group

Our annual Bulb and Spring Show will be held at the Drax Hall on 8th February. All the decorative classes are open to members of other Groups, schedules for which may be had from Miss A. Lys. Entries must be in place by 11 a.m. All classes will be judged by Mrs. Tindall and Mrs. Stephen King. The Show is open to the public at 2.30 p.m. and we hope that many people will come to enjoy the floral arrangements, and the colour and fragrance of the bulb entries. Entrance, including tea, will be one shilling.

Winterbourne Kingston Mothers’ Union

The next meeting will be held at 2.45 p.m. in the Reading Room on Wednesday, February 9th. The speaker will be Miss M. Llewellyn who will speak on the work of a Magistrate in the local Courts. Miss Llewellyn is a most experienced member of the Bench and her talk should prove most informative and interesting.

P.J.T.

Arrangements for Lent and Easter at St. Nicholas

Special Preachers:

Lent I. February 27th.
7.15 p.m. Rev. J.L. Baillie, Vicar of Milborne St. Andrew

Lent III. March 13th.
7.15 p.m. Rev. H.A. Johnson, Vicar of Affpuddle.

On Wednesdays during Lent at 7.30 p.m. there will be a course of

The Bronzage (BC 1900 - BC 500)

By about BC 1900 settlers again began arriving in southern England from Europe, bringing with them a far more advanced culture than already existed here. They had discovered the use of bronze for making weapons and implements, and this therefore marked the beginning of the Bronze Age in Britain.

The chief remains of this period are the large numbers of round barrows or tumuli which are to be found particularly in Dorset and Wiltshire. These were burial mounds, and they normally contain plain burials, cremated burials in urns and various other vessels and ornaments. The burial urns are of varying patterns and sizes in unburnt clay, and many have been recovered from barrow excavations. One cinerary urn, obtained from a barrow on Roke Down in 1845, had a capacity of 13 gallons, and was the largest urn ever found at that date.

About a dozen barrows were excavated on Roke Down and Bere Down between 1840 and 1850, about which more will be said later, but about 50 round barrows still remain intact within the parish. Most of these are marked on the ordnance survey maps and are quite easily found, particularly those in prominent positions on downs or heath land, such as the one on Black Hill which appears on the skyline from the village.

There are about seven different types of round barrow of which the bowl barrow is by far the most common. Those were originally surrounded by a ditch, which in most cases become silted up and entirely disappeared. The diameters and heights vary enormously, from the prominent End Barrow on Bere Heath with a diameter of 66 feet and a height of 8 feet, to inconspicuous mounds of less than 1 foot high, although some of the latter may have been reduced by ploughing and other damage.

Many barrows have of course disappeared during the 3,000 or so years since they were first constructed, either by deliberate plundering or by ploughing, but sometimes a name survives or evidence of a barrow's former existence comes to light. Such a case is Muddox Barrow Farm, where the name survives, and where in about 1900 a bronze axe head was found after ploughing. It was wedge shaped and measured 4½ inches in length.

(to be continued) F.P.P.
Addresses by the Vicar on 'The Religion Jesus hated'. For details, please see under Bere Regis.

Mothering Sunday March 20th, 3.15 Special Family Service.

Good Friday April 8th. 8.00 p.m. Devotional Service

Easter Day April 10th. 9.30 a.m. Holy Communion
7.15 p.m. Evensong.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Annual Sunday School and Church Christmas Party, for children, their mothers, members of the Mothers' Union and Church Helpers proved to be a very happy parish occasion. Each child received an attendance book prize, distributed by the Vicar and there were also prizes for the best kept Stamp Albums. We would like to say 'Thank you' to the members of the Mothers' Union for providing such an excellent tea, and to all who contributed in various ways to the Party. Our thanks go as well to Miss Sylvia House, Miss Brenda Puckett and Miss Margaret Vincent, for their help Sunday by Sunday - this is very worth-while work for the Church and is greatly valued. E.M.S.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS

How lovely it was to see in the Church on Christmas morning our new Prayer Book - a very beautiful and personal Christmas Gift to the Church of St. Nicholas. Forty-four books have been given and grateful thanks are extended to those who gave:

Mr. and Mrs. C. Symes; Mrs. Mowlem; Miss S. Rolls; Mrs. M. Rolls; Mrs. E. Vincent; Mrs. H. Rolls; Mr. Sheppard; Miss Sheppard; Mrs. Thrush; Mr. and Mrs. L. Jones; Mrs. E. Legg; Mrs. T. Pitman; Anon - Bere Regis; Mrs. M. Johnson; Mr. and Mrs. Hooper; Mrs. Locke; Mr. and Mrs. Simpson; Mr. and Mrs. Overstall; Mr. and Mrs. Wingfield; Mrs. Murray; Mr. Mrs. and Miss House; Mr. and Mrs. Bentley; Mrs. D. Legg; The Vicar and Mrs. Tranter.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON

A Wine and Cheese Party will be held at Cobbler's Cottage on Friday, 18th February, at 7.45 p.m. by kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Wingfield.

We hope you will join us on this evening, which is to aid the funds of St. Nichol as Church.

FOR OUR YOUNGER READERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

This month we are going to think about The Lord's Prayer, the prayer which occurs so frequently in our Prayer Book.

First of all, I wonder what we really mean by 'prayer'. Prayer is talking with God, by that you will see it is not talking to God, but with God, which is vastly different. If, for instance you meet one of your friends, I am quite sure that you do not do all the talking, but you listen to what your friend has to say to you - in the same way, when we pray we listen to what God has to say to us, and the way God talks to us is by putting His thoughts into our minds.

Saint Luke tells us, that one day our Lord was praying in a certain place, and when He had finished praying one of His disciples said unto Him, 'Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples' and so we have The Lord's Prayer, the best known of all prayers, for it is used privately, in school and in church.

It begins, as you know, in this way, 'Our Father' not 'my Father, but 'our Father. You see we pray as a family, and then the prayer goes on, 'which art in Heaven' the words 'in Heaven' does not mean that God is far from us, but that to be with God is to be in Heaven.'Hallowed be Thy Name'. Hallowed means holy. We pray that the Father's Name shall be held in reverence.

'Thy Kingdom come.' We know that all the world is Our Father's Kingdom, but does He reign as King over all the world? The work of the Church at home and overseas through its Missionaries is trying desperately to spread the Gospel of Christ throughout the world. Our Father's Kingdom will have come when all men do exactly what He knows to be best.

'Thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.' God's will is done perfectly in Heaven, what a high standard we have to follow, and what an uphill struggle it is, for we should desire to do only what God would have us do and that means to do right and avoid sin.

'Give us this day our daily bread'. Our Father knows we need 'daily bread' and we probably think of food and other daily necessities, and it is right that we should ask God for these things, but we also need God's strength to help fight temptation, and to do the right day by day.

'Forgive us our trespasses. As we forgive them that trespass against us.' God can only forgive us when we have forgiven others. It would not be right for the Father of a family to forgive a child who refused to forgive other children.

'Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil'. God does not tempt us, although He allows us to be tempted, so we pray we may be
strong enough to resist temptation, and thereby delivered from evil.

The words, 'For Thine is the kingdom, the power and the
glory for ever and ever,' we find in St. Matthew's Gospel but not
in St. Luke's. We use this doxology, (which means giving praise
to God) in our Church services when we are specially thankful.

This then is the Christian Family Prayer, every time we say
it we are praying for each other. Shall we say it now, and pause
for a moment after each sentence, to think what the sentence
really means?

E. M. S.

WINTERBOURNE KINGSTON, ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH

CHURCH REGISTER

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